

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, The state of South Dakota is the home of Loren Duke Abdalla, and we are richer because Loren lives among us; and,

Whereas, Birthdays commemorate the first day of our lives, and we celebrate the birthdays of those we love, as we recognize the joys and sorrows we have shared, the strength we have gained from the obstacles and hardships we have conquered, and the small daily pleasures life offers; and,

Whereas, Loren was born in Greenwood, South Dakota, on June 18, 1925, and enlisted in the United States Marine Corps upon turning the age of 18; and,

Whereas, Loren served with distinction for the First Marine Division, 1st Regiment, 1st Battalion, A Company, 1st Platoon of the United States Marine Corps during World War II. He was made a squad leader and fought heroically in both the Battle of Peleliu, one of the bitterest battles of the war for the Marines, and later in the Battle of Okinawa. Loren earned the Purple Heart and Good Conduct Medal for his military service and was honorably discharged on February 18, 1947; and,

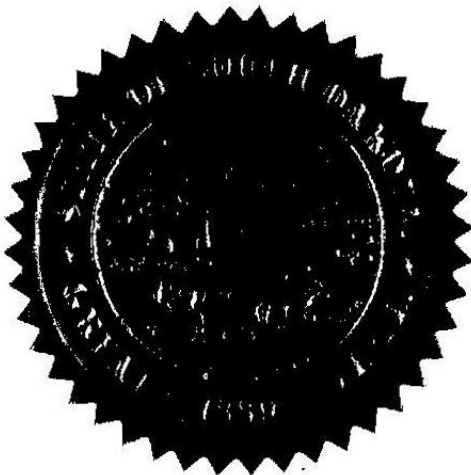
Whereas, Loren represents all that was exceptional about the Greatest Generation. He was raised in tough times during the Great Depression, served valiantly in World War II to defend the freedoms we enjoy today, and returned home to continue to serve his country and his community; and,

Whereas, Loren will observe his 87th Birthday with all the good wishes, fanfare, and celebration such a milestone warrants, as his family and friends gather to honor him and celebrate his life and the camaraderie of the day; and it is fitting and proper for the Governor to make note of this milestone in the life of a man who has lived an exemplary life for all to emulate:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim June 18, 2012, as

LOREN DUKE ABDALLA DAY

in South Dakota, and I join with his family and friends in wishing him well on his birthday and thanking him for his service to the state of South Dakota and to the United States of America.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Fourth Day of May in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Twelve.

Dennis Daugaard
Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Jason M. Gant
Jason M. Gant, Secretary of State